The Romulus News

MAY 10, 1996 - MAY 23, 1996

"the little paper"

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 21

Timely Tidbits ...

Business Appreciation Luncheon Set

The Romulus Educational Foundation - a nonprofit corporation established with the objective of enhancing education in the Romulus Community Schools - is inviting local business people to attend a "Business Appreciation Luncheon" to be held at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 15, in the Romulus High School atrium. The purpose of the luncheon is to introduce area businesses and organizations to the Foundation, its members, and its goal of enhancing the opportunities afforded our young people in preparation for their move into today's work

Those interested in participating are asked to call Louise Briody at 941-1600, ext. 229, to confirm their attendance.

Car Wash Will Benefit Girls' Softball at RHS

The Romulus High School Girls' Softball teams will sponsor a fund-raising car wash at the High School on Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Early arrivals will receive a free Mother's Day flower with their car wash.

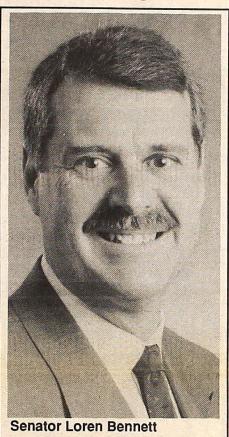
City To Sponsor Free Dumping

The City of Romulus Department of Public Works (34100 Goddard Road) has announced that Romulus residents will be able to take advantage of free dumping (up to two loads per day) on the following dates: Saturday, May 18 and May 25, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Monday through Friday, May 20–24, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Materials unacceptable for dumping include tires; concrete; dirt; tree limbs/trunks or other yard waste; paint; liquid wastes such as petroleum products and other chemicals; and large items such as sheds, boats, cars, and engines. Oil must be mixed with sand or sawdust to form a solid.

For more information, please call 942-7579.

Senator Bennett Announces More Funds for Michigan's Higher-education Institutions



Michigan's universities and community colleges will be getting more money this year as a result of a State

budget surplus, announced Senator Loren Bennet (R-Canton Township).

The Department of Management and Budget declared the surplus recently, resulting in an additional \$18,805,186 for Michigan's 15 State universities.

"This is an excellent way to spend a surplus: investing in our children's future," Bennett said. "This additional money should provide the means by which our state's colleges and universities can keep their tuition costs down. That is vital to continuing affordable education for our kids."

The money was allotted to universities in the following amounts:

- Central Michigan University \$1,350,000,
- Eastern Michigan University \$1,000,000,
- · Ferris State University \$625,000,
- Grand Valley State University \$250,000,
- Lake Superior State University \$250,000,
- Michigan State University \$900,000,
- Michigan Tech \$750,000,
- Northern Michigan University –
 \$500,000

- Oakland University \$700,000
- Saginaw Valley State University \$505,186,
- University of Michigan—Dearborn \$250,000,
- University of Michigan—Flint \$250,000,
- Wayne State University \$3,000,000, and
- Western Michigan University \$475,000.

Michigan community colleges will also be the recipients of additional funds totalling \$3,847,914.

The Higher Education and Community College budget for fiscal year 1995 called for the surplus to go toward higher education. There are no restrictions or requirements on how the funds may be used by the various institutions.

"No State department has overspent its budget in the last three years," Bennett said. "I'm proud to be a part of this team that is working to stretch the taxpayers' dollars just as we would our own. This is what down-sizing government and providing accountability can

Community Resource EXPO To Be Held at RHS

On May 11, the first-ever Community Resource EXPO will be held at Romulus High School. Anticipated are approximately 500 attendees from communities such as Romulus, Belleville, New Boston, Huron Township, Sumpter, and Wayne. Participants will gather at the school to learn about employment, education and training, and volunteer opportunities.

Cosponsored by Special Tree Rehabilitation System and the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club, the EXPO will host approximately 40 vendors. Already, many area businesses and service groups – including the Michigan Jobs Commission, Special Tree Rehabilitation System, Wayne County Community College, Grancare, the Romulus Marriott, MADD, Interim Healthcare, and Kelly Services have confirmed their participation as exhibit vendors.

High School seniors who attend the EXPO will have an opportunity to participate in mock interviews. Regional

managers from Special Tree Rehabilitation System and other community leaders will conduct the interviews.

"The idea for mock interviews was sparked by a school requirement," said EXPO Project Coordinator Bettye Milledge, who explained that students at many area schools are required to gather a minimum number of mock-interview hours in order to graduate. "Since this is a community event, we wanted to offer some opportunities that branched beyond employment."

Special Tree Rehabilitation System and the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club are working hand in hand to organize the event. Special Tree, located at 39000 Chase Road in Romulus, offers rehabilitation services for people who have experienced life-altering changes such as head injuries and strokes. The CARFaccredited provider is one of Michigan's leading resources for inpatient, residential, outpatient, and in-home rehabilitation, says Milledge.

The Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club exists to develop optimism as a philosophy of life; to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs; to inspire respect for law; to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people; and to aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of man, his community, and the world.

Other community organizations supporting the event include the Romulus Chamber of Commerce, the City of Romulus, the Romulus School Community Committee, Romulus Middle School, the Michigan Family Independence Agency (formerly the Department of Social Services), Romulus High School, and Michigan Jobs Commission & Rehabilitation Services.

For details about the Community Resource EXPO, callBettye Milledge at 941-1142.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

No Basis for "Test Well" Confusion, Says EDS

To the Editor:

Ms. Sandra Yerman's statement in the March 29, 1996 edition of *The Romulus News* regarding the potential that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) permit form for the Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS) well caused confusion and/or misinterpretation by the City of Romulus because the form uses boxes to be marked with an "X" to indicate whether the permit is to "drill" or to "operate" is very interesting. This statement, indicating that the way the form was marked allowed the City to believe that this was just a "test well," has no basis.

First of all, the terminology of a "test well" does not appear anywhere on the form. Secondly, the City administrators and the City attorney have a duty to make sure that they would understand such a document. Standard care would require the City to inquire from the State as to what this permit represented. The duty of care clearly lies with the City relative to any such misinterpretation.

Furthermore, it is good that Ms. Yerman has clarified the position that the City felt this was a "test well" as a misinterpretation by the City.

Sincerely, Austin Marshall Vice President, EDS

"What Do We Do With Waste?" Asks Reader

To the Editor:

I am going to jump into the deepwell controversy because there is one question that I have not seen addressed by those who have been most vocal in opposition to the deep-well project: What do we do with the waste generated by manufacturing?

There have been suggestions that we send it off to unpopulated areas. Would a remote disposal site be any more geologically appropriate or economically feasible?

What is it about a deep-well that has produced so much fear? I have read vague arguments about what "might" happen. Transportation accidents are certainly possible, but I feel that travel routes have been carefully

planned to avoid transporting waste through residential areas. Storage accidents aren't likely because there will usually be little, if any, delay before waste will be disposed of in the deepwell. It seems a remote possibility that cracks in such thick layers of the hardest rock—granite—would allow leakage into the water table, but even that remote possibility will be carefully guarded against by monitoring pressure gauges.

I see people in communities around us living in potentially more dangerous situations. Monroe has a nuclear generator. Jackson and other communities have correctional facilities. Midland has Dow Chemical. A deep-well in our community seems far less threatening.

We are living with pollution and waste in our air, on our land, and in our water. It would make more sense to me to see these immediate problems attacked as vigorously as the deep-well issue.

We live in an age that has given us comfort, convenience, and freedom to travel. Waste products produced because of this life-style are a consequence we must address. We must take responsibility for waste generated by our demand for industrial progress. Please answer: What do we do with this waste?

Sincerely, Sally Michalski

"Double Standard?" Asks Resident

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to open the eyes of Romulus residents who are still naive enough to actually believe that certain branches of our city government deal with us in a fair and just manner.

At a recent City Council meeting, Mr. George Toma of Romulus - an average, hard-working citizen who drives a truck for a living - spoke about his encounters with the Romulus Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Apparently, Mr. Toma had asked the BZA for special permission to park his rig on his property when he makes a stopover to visit his family, instead of having to leave it miles away and spend money for cabs and hours of what could have been time at home just trying to get back and forth from his truck. He even offered to landscape the parking area to minimize any "negative impact" which might have been created by the truck's presence. His repeated petitions have always been denied.

Should Mr. Toma's request for an exception have been granted? I think that it should have been. But, whether or not we agree on this particular issue, continued on page 10

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The Romulus News welcomes articles, submitted by individuals and/or organizations, that may be of interest to its readers; however, *The Romulus News* reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication.

The Romulus News is not responsible for articles submitted by writers in whole or in part, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. Since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, misspellings and grammar errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of *The Romulus News*. (All letters must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.)

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Guest Commentary

"Thumbs Up" for the Line-item Veto

Editor's note: The purpose of the "Guest Commentary" column is to provide members of the Romulus community and other interested parties with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and do business here. Responsible individuals or spokespersons are invited to make use of this column, at no charge, at any time. For more information, please contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at either 941-1907 or 941-3113.

By Congresswoman Lynn N. Rivers, U.S. Representative for the 13th District

If Congress proved one point this year, it is that party politics have got to take a back seat to the common good. The budget debacle clearly could have been averted if there was more bipartisanship in Congress. Along these lines, it might have been averted if the lineitem veto had been approved sooner—which is one of the reasons why I voted in favor of the line-item veto last month before it was signed into law.

As a Representative, I believe it is

my responsibility to enact good laws and sound policy regardless of who initially proposes them. The line-item veto was introduced by the Republicans as part of their "Contract with America." I voted in favor of it because it is an important tool for making government more effective. For years, Michigan has had the line-item veto on its books, and I have seen governors from both parties use it responsibly and effectively. Such a tool, I believe, is needed on the Federal level as well.

This will be instrumental for cutting "pork" from the budget. The term "pork" applies to unnecessary expenditures, such as money for building roads that lead nowhere or election-year civic beautification programs. With the lineitem veto, the President could strike such items from the bill without sacrificing those programs that really do help neighborhoods and businesses. This will enable him to save more taxpayer dollars and oversee the budget more responsibly.

The line-item veto also has the potential to allow the President to prevent the budget process from being hijacked by regional or special interests. Nowadays, appropriations bills contain thousands of agencies, jobs, and programs. If Congress presents the President with appropriations bills that contain spending increases or budget provisions unfairly benefiting particular groups, every aspect of government covered under those spending bills goes unfunded if the President exercises his veto.

Knowing that the President has lineitem veto power might compel Congress to budget more moderately in the future. It could also force legislators to focus more specifically on those issues which divide them. Both of these possibilities, in the end, could further facilitate the budget process. In passing the line-item veto, Congress has worked in a bipartisan and responsible manner. It has taken an important step towards reforming the government and eliminating unnecessary expenditures from future budgets.

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DATE: MAY 15, 1996

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: ROMULUS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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- Volunteer to serve on a citizen's committee examining the project . . .
- Or just come by to learn more about this proposed project and its effect on the community.

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Cory School and Optimist Club: Partners in Education



(From left) Charles K. Nolen, Phyllis Adkins, Tom Wilson, Jennette Nolen, and Judge William Szlinis.

By Opal McClenden

The Partnership in Education Program ceremony linking Cory Elementary School and the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club was held on April 25, 1996, at Cory Elementary School.

Diane Meriweather, Vice President of the Optimist Club, was the Mistress of Ceremony. Meriweather was eager to announce that she attended kindergarten at Cory School. (What year?)

A breath-taking musical selection in sign language was performed by the New Hope Baptist Church Youth Group under the direction of Optimist Tia Richardson. Tom Wilson, Cory School Parent Booster, gave an update of activities that are being sponsored by the Optimist Club at Cory School, including Warm-A-Child, Mentoring and Modeling, Respect for Law, and a Physical Fitness Dance Program. Mr. Wilson welcomed the Optimist Club to Cory School.

Optimist President, Jennette Nolen, explained the purpose of the Partnership Program. Nolen stated that the Partnership in Education Program is designed to encourage clubs to work closely with local schools by offering supplemental programs designed to strengthen the educational curriculum. It also provides the opportunity and incentive to recognize outstanding contributors to our educational system.

"We intend to abide by this in our partnership with Cory School," said Nolen. She continued by saying that this partnership will be executed through the ongoing implementation of programs and activities that provide enrichment opportunities for our children. "We look forward to expanding the program over the next years. We ask, encourage, and will appreciate community support."

Optimist Charles K. Nolen introduced the Honorable William Szlinis, Judge for the 34th District Court, who officiated the "Signing Ceremony." Participants in the signing ceremony were Phyllis Adkins, Principal of Cory School; Jennette Nolen, Optimist President; and Judy Wilson of the Cory School Parent Boosters.

A resolution was presented to Cory School and the Optimist Club by Wayne County Commissioner Bruce Patterson. A resolution also was presented by Optimist Vice President Michael Woods from Mayor William Oakley, City of Romulus. The Club's Optimist Lt. Governor, Dr. John Miller, praised the accomplishments of the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club.

Principal and Optimist member Phyllis Adkins spoke of how the Optimist Club has been working closely with Cory for the past two years, and that the implemented programs have been well accepted by the students.

Others in attendance included Romulus Board of Education members Julie Oleszkowicz and Sandra Langley; Superintendent of Schools, Dr. William Bedell; District Curriculum Director, Tom Dolan; Director of Technology, Art McPharlin; Optimist Publicity Chairperson, Mary Ann Amos; and many parents, grandparents, students, and other friends of Optimists.

Finally, the Partnership ceremony closed with a recitation of the Optimist Creed.

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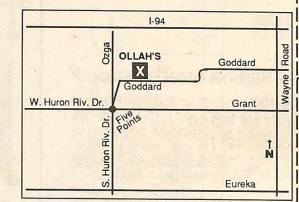


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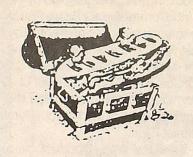
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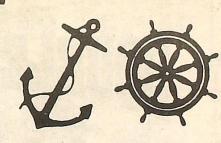
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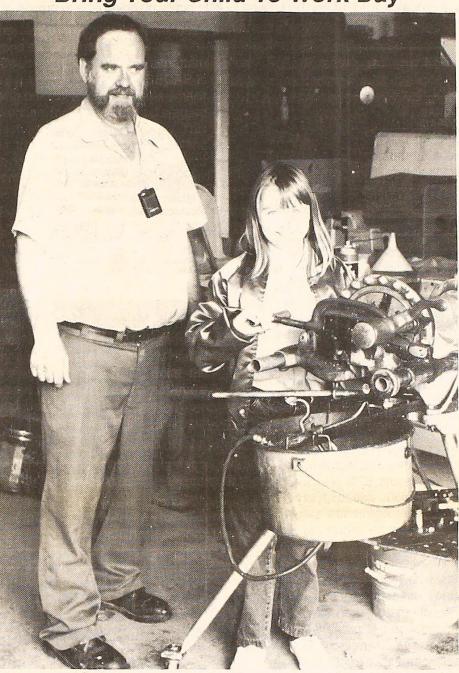
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Local Youth Enjoys Participation in "Bring Your Child To Work Day"



Amanda O'Connor - daughter of Leo O'Connor, who is employed as a plumber by the Romulus Community Schools - spent the day with her dad on April 25 as part of the "Bring Your Child to Work Day" program. The third-grade student at Halecreek Elementary School enjoyed the day as - dressed as a plumber herself - she watched her father carry out his daily work duties. Amanda visited several schools, and also enjoyed having lunch with the maintenance department at the District's administrative office. At the end of the day, Amanda was presented with a certificate of completion as a "plumber assistant."





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Safety Check Urged During SAFE KIDS Week

The number-one health risk for America's kids ages 14 and under isn't violence, drugs, or disease.

It's injuries.

Each year, approximately 7,200 children ages 14 and under are killed from unintentional injuries, and 50,000 are permanently disabled.

That's why National SAFE KIDS Week, May 4–11, is so important. It's a time when numerous National organizations and coalitions join local groups like the Romulus Community Schools to take part in an injury-prevention campaign that could save lives.

"Accidental injuries are the cause of needless tragedies," says Pat Vranesich, coordinator of the Metro Detroit SAFE KIDS Coalition. "But the use of proper safety measures can go a long way to help protect children."

To avoid injuries, Vranesich recommends the following simple steps.

Traffic Safety (Child Safety Seats)

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injury-related deaths for children ages 14 and under.

"When they are properly used, child safety seats with safety belts are more than 70% effective in preventing fatalities, and about 67% effective in preventing serious injuries," says Vranesich, who recommends always using child safety seats when traveling with children in a vehicle.

When children outgrow the safety seats with safety belts, at about 40 pounds, use a booster seat with safety belts until the children weigh over 60 pounds or can fit properly in the belt alone, says Vranesich. Follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.

If all vehicle occupants ages four and under were restrained, 200 lives could be saved and 20,000 injuries prevented annually, traffic safety experts

Bicycle Safety

With the exception of the automobile, bicycles are associated with more childhood injuries than any other consumer product.

Cyclists ages 14 and under are at five times higher risk for injury than older cyclists. Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes.

"Despite the fact that about 80% of bicycle deaths involve head injuries," says Vranesich, "only about 15% of children regularly wear helmets."

Universal use of bike helmets by children ages four through 15 would prevent 135 to 155 deaths annually, she believes.

Fire Safety

Each year, approximately 1,000 children ages 14 and under die in residential fires across the U.S. More than 60% of these children are ages four and under.

"It only takes a few dollars and a little family planning time to prepare for fire emergencies," says Vranesich. "Your loved ones may have only three minutes to get out safely before being overcome by smoke and gases. Smoke detectors and fire safety drills are key

factors in making quick exits in home emergency situations."

To guard against fires, install smoke detectors in sleeping areas and on every level of the home. Replace batteries yearly. Plan and practice two alternative fire escape routes.

The chances of dying in a residential fire are cut in half when a working smoke detector is present, according to Vranesich.

Ninety percent of child fire deaths occur in homes that are without working smoke detectors.



Help the National SAFE KIDS Campaign®Check ✓ America. Take this home, fill it out with grown-ups, and help keep your family safe. YES NO Our family buckles up on every car ride. Our family wears bike helmets when bicycling. Kids under 10 never cross streets alone. Kids are always supervised in or near water. Our home has working smoke detectors and we check the batteries monthly. Our water heaters are set no higher than 120° F to prevent scald burns. If guns are in our home, they are kept unloaded and locked away. Kids are protected against falls from windows, stairs, furniture, and playground equipment. Household cleaners, medicines, and vitamins are stored out of young kids' reach. EMERGENCY PHONE Our home has emergency numbers near 444 911 or 0 telephones and first aid supplies.



This list is not comprehensive. It is meant to assist families in taking steps to prevent childhood injuries.

For additional information, write the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, 111 Michigan Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20010-2970. © National SAFE KIDS Campaign, CNMC.

AAA Michigan

The space for this safety information was sponsored by the Romulus Community Schools: "Your Children Are Our Greatest Concern"

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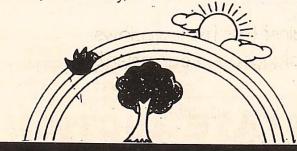
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Bill Would Ban "Ultimate Fighting"

State Representative Greg Pitoniak (D-Taylor) has introduced legislation (HB 5855) that would ban "Ultimate Fighting" events in Michigan.

"This is a truly violent event and there is growing concern for the health and safety of the participants," he said. This legislation is supported by the State Attorney General's office and the Michigan Athletic Board of Control, which regulates boxing events in the State.

"Ultimate Fighting" is a competition where two contestants lock themselves in an octagonal metal cage, and then proceed to club, scratch, strangle, knee, head-butt, punch, and kick each other into submission or unconsciousness.

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The game is over after one of the contestants dies, loses consciousness, is unwilling to continue, or is disqualified. The only rules exclude biting, eyegouging, and fish-hooking, in which one participant puts his finger in the other's mouth and attempts to rip the mouth. Children are allowed to attend the event in the company of an adult.

Pitoniak's legislation specifically would make it a felony for any person to participate, or aid another person in participating, in such an event.

"At least 36 states, who are members of the Association of Boxing Commissions, have stated that they are opposed to "Ultimate Fighting" events," Pitoniak said.

The Michigan Attorney General's office has filed a lawsuit in Wayne County to prohibit the Ultimate Fighting Championship that is scheduled to take place at Cobo Hall in Detroit on May 17. Three states – Mississippi, South Carolina, and Oklahoma – have already been successful in banning these events.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pre-Application Public Information Meeting

Project Description

Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS) Hazardous Waste Storage, Treatment and Deepwell Disposal Facility, Citrin Road, Romulus, Michigan.

Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to describe the following:

- Details of the facility and its operation.
- · Truck routes.
- Wastewater types to be handled.
- The nature of the permitting process under Act 451, Part III.
- · And to answer questions about the facility.

Meeting Details

June 4, 1996, 6:30 p.m. Clarion Hotel 31200 Wickham Road Romulus, Michigan

For Special Access Needs

Please notify EDS at (313) 955-2100.

Application Contact Person

Austin Marshall

36420 Northline Road Romulus, Michigan 48174 (313) 955-2100

Community Calendar

- Head Start Seeks Students The Romulus Head Start and MDE Preschool programs are currently recruiting eligible three- and fouryear-old children for September 1996. These free preschool programs, held at Beverly School, serve children from low-income families, foster children, and children with disabilities. For more information, or to apply, call 728-7815.
- Registration Drive at St. Aloysius St. Aloysius Catholic School (located at 37200 Neville Road, near I–275 and I–94, in Romulus) is currently accepting registrations for the 1996–1997 school year. Afull curriculum is offered to students in grades K–8. All teachers are State-certified. For further information, call the School (941-3340) any weekday during normal business hours.
- The Hunchback of Notre Dame The Huron Civic Theatre (32044 Huron River Drive, in New Boston) will present The Hunchback of Notre Dame, on Friday, May 10, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 11, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 12, at 3 p.m. Tickets (\$9 for adults; \$8 for senior citizens and students) are available at the Box Office; call 782-5380.
- Annual Women's Day Celebration New Hope Missionary Baptist Church (5403 South Wayne Road, Wayne) will present its third annual Women's Day Celebration mother/daughter banquet on Sunday, May 18, at 6 p.m. The public is welcome. For ticket information, contact Ms. Annette Salford (595-1654) or Mrs. Arlene Thomas (981-7299). Donation: \$10 per person.
- Display of Native American Artifact Replicas Through the month of May, a display of various replicas of Native American artifacts (courtesy of the Outpost, located at 18855 Wahrman Road in New Boston) will be at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road) during the Library's normal business hours. For more information, call the Library: 942-7590.
- Wrlter Support Group Writers Anonymous, a newly formed writer support group encompassing all ages and interests, will meet at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road) on the first and third Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The group's objective is to give honest, constructive criticism and encouragement to its members. For more information, please call the Library at 942-7589.
- Romulus Little League Meetings The Romulus Little League Board of Directors invites the public to attend its twice-monthly meetings, held at 7 p.m. every second and fourth Monday at the Romulus Recreation Department (36515 Bibbins).
- Premarital Counseling Classes Oakwood Hospital Heritage Center—Taylor, in cooperation with the Taylor Teen Health Center, offers premarital counseling classes that fulfill the State of Michigan marriage license requirement. Participants receive information on sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, and prenatal care from a qualified health educator. Classes are offered on the second Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. at 10000 Telegraph, Taylor. Cost is \$25 for couples; \$15 for individuals. For more information, or to preregister, call 374-2273.
- Donations Accepted The Outpost (located at 18855 Wahrman Road, New Boston) is an authorized drop-off site for items (no cash or checks, please) to be donated to the charity of St. Vincent De Paul of Detroit. Items may be dropped off at the store between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. any weekday. For more information, please call the Outpost (753-0522).

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

continued from page 2

I'll bet you do agree with me that the BZA should be consistent in its decisions and give equal, impartial treatment to people with similar requests, regardless of whether or not the members "like" the petitioner or his politics.

Well, the ideal of fair treatment is just a pipe dream in Romulus these days. Consider:

- Mr. Dan Bussard recently received special permission from the BZA to park his motor home and camper in his driveway. Coincidentally(?), Mr. Bussard is one of the newly appointed members of the BZA and is politically aligned with Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP).
- Mr. Brooker Edwards, another new BZA member, was placed on the Board just in time to vote on a zoning hearing for Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS). His vote, when cast, turned out to be against the EDS project. Coincidentally(?), Mr. Edwards owns property across from the EDS well on Wahrman, and is also politically aligned with RECAP.
- Mr. Stanley Kreft, who is chairman of the BZA, has been outspoken about his opposition to EDS, and has consistently voted against the proposals which EDS has brought before the Board. But I bet it would be interesting to go over the Board's records and see how many times Mr. Kreft voted in favor of past proposals from companies which handle substances much more toxic than anything that would be injected into the EDS well, and which use trucks in far greater numbers than EDS would ever have done. Coincidentally(?), Mr. Kreft is also politically. aligned with RECAP.
- Mrs. Verlie Wilhide recently approached the BZA and Council to apply for a zoning change on her Ozga Road property. Her request was approved by both bodies. Coincidentally(?), Mrs. Wilhide is also a RECAP member. And could her af-

filiation with RECAP have something to do with the fact that she has been allowed to leave a large political sign on the side of her building, despite the fact that it should have been gone six months ago?

Does anyone else see a pattern here? It seems to me that RECAP is running our city along lines that smack of favoritism for the few and a disregard for just treatment of the many. This unfair treatment extends even to the basic right of free speech. After all, if you sympathize with RECAP, you can speak for as long as you wish during the discussion portion of our Council meetings. But if Chairman Randy Gear who, coincidentally(?), is also politically aligned with RECAP - doesn't like what you have to say, you're cut off, often in mid-sentence, at the three-minute limit which is so inconsistently enforced.

It seems to be popular, these days, to use "The Pledge of Allegiance" to justify a single point of view. Myself, I think it would be nice if, just once, the emphasis was put on the last four words: "... and justice for all."

Sincerely, Dolores Witzgall

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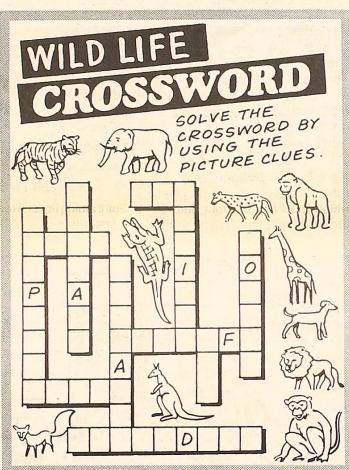
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K5910012

The largest desert in the world

Many people think of a desert as a large flat piece of land, covered with sand — but that can be far from the truth

The world's largest desert, the Sahara in North Africa, has many mountains, some rising to more than 10,000 feet. That is higher than any mountain in Britain and a third of the height of Mount Everest.

For part of the year these desert mountains will even be covered with snow. In fact, the whole desert gets very cold at night and heats up rapidly during the day.

Wilderness

The name Sahara in Arabic means "wilderness," and in this case the wilderness stretches right across Africa from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea. From east to west it covers more than 3,000 miles. East of the Red Sea, similar conditions continue through Saudi Arabia into Iran.

Estimating the width of the desert, from north to south, is more difficult. The desert does not just stop suddenly and become a forest (even though many people picture Africa as one giant jungle).

Instead the desert conditions disappear only gradually as you travel south, so although individual countries have their set boundaries, the desert does not.

However, the Sahara is never less than 1,000 miles from north to south and therefore must have a total area of more than three million square miles. This is almost as big as the entire United States.

Rainfall

Because the Sahara is near the equator, it is one of the hottest regions of the world during the day, with temperatures reaching more than 100 degrees each day. It usually rains on only 17 days each year, so there is no chance of cultivating the ground for crops.

But when it does rain, pretty flowers and herbs grow very rapidly and then disappear almost as quickly as they came — until the next rainfall. K5910011

Ben is a bell

Most people have probably heard of Big Ben and many believe it to be the clock in the building next to the House of Commons in London.

In fact it is the name of the huge bell inside that building, which chimes the hours in the clock tower.

It weighs more than 13 tons

and was made in 1858, being named Ben after the Chief Commissioner of Works at that time, Sir Benjamin Hall.

The numerals on the clock face are two feet high and the pendulum is 13 feet long.

When it was first installed it took two men to wind it every week; now it runs on electricity. K5910014



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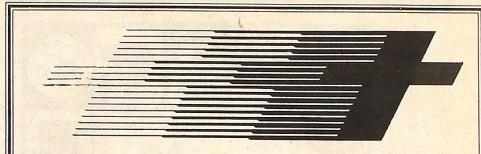
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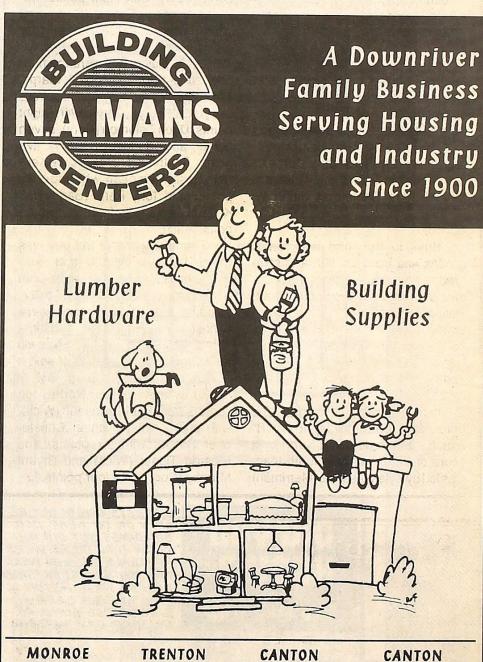


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... And a Good Time Was Had by All

Parent/Child Bowling

A good time was had by all who participated in the Romulus Recreation Department's Parent/Child Bowling event, which was held on Saturday, April 27.

When all was done, the top finishers were:

- first place: Cheryl Lanier and Melissa Lane (967),
- second place: Mack Stillwagon and Stephanie Stillwagon (958),
- third place: Roy Hollis, Sr., and Roy Hollis, Jr. (944),
- fourth place: Yvonne Deverich and Jessica Deverich (919),
- fifth place: Sherry Staffiery and Robert Staffiery (894),
- sixth place: Tanya Zorn and Ashley Wagle (880),
- seventh place: Kathryn Bright and Jimmy Bright (866),
- eighth place: Stephanie Wagle and Matthew Wagle (858),
- ninth place: Brooke Ross and Anne Ross (824),
- tenth place: Linda McNeil and Andrew McNeil (817).

Congratulations to all!

Youth Elementary All-stars Games

The Romulus Recreation Department joined the Romulus Community Schools in hosting Youth Elementary All-stars Games on Saturday, March 30, at the Romulus Middle School.

Boys in the third and fourth grades and from the fifth and sixth grades were divided into North (Cory and Wick schools) and South (Barth, Halecreek, and Merriman schools) teams. Girls in grades three through six were divided into East (Cory and Halecreek schools) and West (Barth and Wick) teams. A total of 137 students participated.

In the first game of the day – the third- and fourth-grade boys' "B" match – South defeated North by a score of 22 to 14. The South team was led by Kyle Wasson's (Merriman)

eight points and Georjon Garland's (Merriman) four points. The leading scorers for the North team were DreQuan Curry (Cory), with four points, and Joshua Brown (Cory), who had three points.

The second game of the competition was the third- and fourth-grade boys "A" game, in which the North beat the South, 14 to 10. The North team was led by Tylon Pitts (Wick), with six points, and Aaron Nelson (Wick), who had four points. Charles Drummond's (Merriman) six points led the South team in its defeat.

In the day's third game, the girls' West squad scored a 24–16 victory over the East. West's scoring leaders, with eight points each, were Patrice Beasley (Wick) and Lakesha Rucker (Wick). East was led by Tiarra Long (Cory), with eight points, followed by Rye Theriot (Cory) and Lottie Stewart (Halecreek), with four points each.

Set to play fourth were the fifthand sixth-grade boys' "B" teams. Leading North to a 34–28 win were Daryl Galloway (Cory), with eight points, Deon Solomon (Cory), seven points, and Perry Gray (Cory), five points. South's top scorers were Kenneth Ross (Merriman), who had eight points, and Tony Penn (Barth) and Kevin Kendrick (Merriman), with three points each.

The final game of the day was played between the fifth- and sixth-grade boys' "A" teams, with South beating North by a score of 33 to 27. Leading South to victory were Johnston Watson (Barth), with eight points; Anson Long and Byron Lewis (both from Barth), each with seven points; and Charles Searcy (Halecreek), with six points. North's top scorers were Paul Townsend (Wick), with nine points, Michael Christopher (Wick), with six points, and Ricardo Tigner (Wick) and Bryant Murphy (Cory), with four points.



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Monday through Friday 9 to 5 . Saturday and Sunday 10 to 2

Recreation Programs

Thanks to Debbie Dick, director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Keith Brothers, recreation coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation Programs" column. For more information about these or other offerings, stop in at the Recreation Department Office, 36515 Bibbins, or call 942-6852.

No-fee Yard Sales

The City of Romulus will sponsor a "no-fee yard-sale weekend" during the Memorial Day holiday (May 30 to June 2). Interested residents should note that use of this no-fee permit opportunity counts toward the three-per-year limit, and must be restricted to three of the four possible days, in accordance with the City's ordinance. Applications must be received at the Romulus Recreation Department by Friday, May 17, so that maps and participants lists can be made and distributed before the event.

Little Red Riding Hood

The Romulus Recreation Department's upcoming trip to Northville to see a live production of *Little Red Riding Hood* is open to both children and their parents. The bus departs from the Recreation office at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 25, and returns at approximately 4:30 p.m.

A cost of \$7 (cash only, please) includes transportation, supervision, and admission to the theater. Deadline for registration (at the Recreation office) is Thursday, May 23, but early registration is recommended because the trip is limited to the first 45 registrants.

3-on-3 Basketball

Ages eight to adult are invited to participate in the Recreation Department's 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, set for Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19, at Romulus High School.

Play will be split into the following divisions, which will also be separated into male and female subdivisions if there are enough registrants (note: dollar amounts in parentheses reflect team fees for residents and nonresidents, respectively, and must be paid *in cash* at the Recreation office at the time of registration):

- ages eight to 10 (\$40/\$45)
- ages 11 to 13 (\$40/\$45)
- ages 14 to 16 (\$40/\$45)
- ages 17 and 18 (\$60/\$70)
- ages 19 to 39 (\$60/\$70)
- ages 40 and up (\$60/\$70)
- "open" division (\$60/\$70)

"under-six-feet" division (\$60/\$70).
 To qualify for the "resident" rate, at least one member of the team (maximum of fourplayers) must live in Romulus. Fees

will include T-shirts for everyone, monitors or a referee at each court, and trophies for the first-, second-, and thirdplace finishers in each division.

Individuals may play on one team only.

Coed Youth Softball

The Romulus Recreation Department's newly restructured Summer Youth Softball League will offer coed play for children in three age groups eight to 10, 11 to 13, and 14 to 17 - with August 1 being the birth-date cutoff. Practices will begin the last of May; games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Elmer Johnson Park beginning the third week of June. A cost of \$20 per player/\$35 per family includes a shirt and hat. Anyone who has a neighborhood team or an organizational team that qualifies within the above age groups should contact the Recreation office. Coaches and umpires are also needed.

Coed Adult Softball

The Romulus Recreation Department is currently putting together a sixteam Coed Adult Softball League to play a minimum of 10 games plus playoffs on Fridays beginning June 7. An entry fee of \$275 per team covers balls, umpires, scorekeepers, and grounds maintenance.

Registrations are being accepted at the Recreation office through May 24 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Horseshoe Club

The Romulus Horseshoe Club, which meets at Elmer Johnson Park for play each Tuesday, is looking for new members. Men and women ages 13 and up are welcome. All handicaps are averaged for equal play.

For more information, please contact Jim Campbell (729-6499) or James Norville (422-7530).

A Special "Thank-you"

Recreation Director Debbie Dick would like to thank the following people for making the April 6 "Easter Egg Hunt" - in which about 400 children participated - such a rousing success: Recreation Commission members Jerry Kittle and Teretha Allen; Romulus High School (RHS) Project SERVE director, Kathy Hurst; RHS students Davetta Edwards, Novia Edwards, Jannetta Sewell, Gregory Scott, Janai Wade, Tiffany Love, Sheirley Cadet, Erin Jones, Shanita Moon, Yoruba Mitchell, Letty Taylor, Sean Dick, and Michele Dick; and Recreation Department staff members Keith Brothers, Sheila Stewart, Linda Norman, and Gayle Mach.

Senior Profile: Velma Sumner



By Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus

Once upon a time, in the not-sofar-away kingdom of Wayne, lived a family named McMurtry. There was Mama McMurtry, Papa McMurtry, and two baby McMurtrys. Velma, the oldest of the children, was a happy and playful girl even then.

Time passed quickly and, in no time, Velma was in high school, where she met her Prince Charming: Orval Sumner. They married in 1937 and had three fantastic children – and, later, five wonderful grandchildren.

Velma stayed busy cooking, baking, cleaning, and caring for her family, while Orval ran the family store (Sumner Trading Center) along with his brother and partner. Says Velma, "The secret to my good marriage was mutual respect for each other and being best friends."

Eighteen years ago in August, Orval passed away, leaving a void in Velma's life. She started attending the Romulus Senior Center the following month, and became very active by volunteering to help with dinners, luncheons, and various activities. "There were times I put in as much as 11 hours in a day just helping out," Velma recounts. She doesn't

regret one second of the time she gave to others. Later, the City did hire her, and she taught crafts and helped to teach ceramics.

I asked Velma these questions:

- If you could change anything in your life, what would it be? (She looked me in the eye, smiled, and said, "I've been satisfied with everything I've done. I just enjoy life.")
- What is your secret for happiness? (Gazing down for a moment, she looked up and said, "Happiness is only what you make of it. I've always surrounded myself with a really good circle of friends.")
- If you could do anything in the world, what would it be? (This time, her answer took a more serious tone: "Do away with crime, war, and hate. We need to love one another more," she replied.)
- What advice could you give to us new, up-and-coming senior citizens? (With a cute little smile, she answered, "Keep on the go and stay busy. Make the most of your life. Don't just stay home feeling sorry for yourself.")

Velma enjoyed walking down memory lane, telling me about school, meeting Orval, graduation, and work. All her tales had an element of humor and a sense of warmth. I'd like to share one of the special events in her fantastic life: her graduation. The significance of her graduation day will always be etched in her mind because it was also the day that all the banks failed and closed their doors.

The friends of this lady were very helpful in setting up this interview. They did this out of love, respect, and admiration for this lovely woman. Velma doesn't think she's done anything special, but I believe that the act of giving yourself so completely to others is special. She has brought us such happiness and joy, enriching our lives and making us smile.

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 36554 Goddard

Downtown Romulus 941-6450

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Birthdate	Time	
Weight	Length	
Birthplace		
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Paternal Grandparents		The state of the s
Address	To design on agreement	
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ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

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	State
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Groomsmen	
Date of Engagement	
Date of Wedding	
Place	
City	State
City	State
Name and phone number of perso	n to contact (in case of questions):

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

- CHURCH DIRECTORY -

ASSEMBLY OF GOD – 36572 Goddard / 941-4014 / Rev. James R. O'Guin, Pastor / Sunday Moming Worship – 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m. / Tuesday Evening Service – 7 p.m. / Thursday Youth Night – 7 p.m.

BALL ROAD TABERNACLE - 7007 Ball Rd. / 722-9638

BELLEVILLE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – 11900 Belleville Rd. / Belleville / 697-8687 / Rev. Deborah Vanleuven Kerr, Pastor / Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Moming Worship – 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. / Craft Circle – Thursday, 9:30 a.m. / Women's Association Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of some months – 7:30 p.m.

BETHANY APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH - 34584 Beverly Rd. / 729-4240 / Elder Reginald Williams, Pastor / Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11:15 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship - 7:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH - 30055 Ecorse Rd. / 728-1845

BETHANY CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 35737 Vinewood / 326-0810 / Robert L. Gordon, Pastor / Sunday School - 10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m.

BEVERLY HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH - 34156 Beverty Rd. / 729-6440 / Dr. Lovell Wooden, Sr., Pastor / Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship - 7:30 p.m. / Thursday Prayer Service - 12 p.m. / Thursday Choir Rehearsal - 6 p.m. / Thursday Bible Study - 7:30 p.m. / Free Transportation - Call 729-6440

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 11338 Ozga Rd. / 941-0236 / Marvin Hawbaker, Pastor /Sunday School - 10 a.m. / Sunday Adult Bible Study - 10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study - 7p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST – 9426 S. Wayne Rd. / Office: 721-2585 / Phil Morr, Evangelist/Sunday Bible Study – 10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship – 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. / Wednesday Evening Worship – 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY - 7201 Kempa St. / 729-2283

CHURCH OF GOD-ROMULUS – 8770 S. Wayne Rd. / 729-4884 / Parsonage: 729-7234 /Rev. Douglas M. Bishop, Pastor / Sunday School – 10 a.m. / Sunday Moming Worship – 11 a.m. / Sunday Children's Church – 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m. / Family Training Service – Wednesday, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF OUR LORD JESUS MIRACLE TEMPLE - 36949 Goddard / 941-6070

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH - 6200 Fourth St. / 729-0630 / 419-727-0631 / Rev. Hiram McBurrowst, Pastor / Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 11160 Olive St. / 941-3474 / Brad Lewis, Pastor / 941-0736 / Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m.

FAITH HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH - Oakbrooke Villa Club House / 30251 Elm Street (1 Block South of Eureka) / Rev. Earl W. Ellison, Sr., Pastor / 941-4855 or 721-8489 / Sunday School-10:45 a.m. / Sunday Moming Worship - 11:30 a.m.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD – 870 Savage Rd. / Belleville / 699-6700 / Kenneth W. Miller, Pastor / Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship – 11 a.m. – Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. / Wednesday Family Night – 7 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 11412 Delano St. / 941-0225

FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH - 19101 Inkster Rd. / Brownstown / 782-1220 / Sunday Morning Worship - 10 a.m. / Adult Bible Study and Sunday School - 11:30 a.m. / Nursery available / Active Drama Team

MARTIN TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST – 6566 S. Wayne Rd. / 326-1270 / Elder Edward Thomas, Jr., Pastor / Sunday School – 10 a.m. / Sunday Worship – 12:00 p.m. / Sunday Evening Y.P.W.W. – 6:30 p.m. / Prayer and Bible Study – Tuesday, 7 p.m. / Friday Worship Service – 7 p.m.

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH - 35565 Beverly Rd. / 729-2460 / James Thompson, Pastor / 531-1285 / Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. / Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 6:30 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study - 7 p.m.

NEW FAITH CHAPEL – 19498 Middlebett Rd. / 783-1490 / Curt Swick, Pastor / 381-5630 / Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship – 6:00 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study – 7:00 p.m.

PARKS MEMORIAL A.M.E. - 11547 Grover St. / 941-0771 / Rev. Jeffery Baker, Pastor /Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. / Wednesday Bible Study -6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 35625 Vinewood St. / 728-1390 / Rev. Arthur C. Willis, Pastor / 548-5954 / Sunday School - 10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 11:30 a.m. / Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

ROMULUS FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH - 9900 Tobine / 941-8810

ROMULUS WESLEYAN CHURCH – 37300 Goddard Rd. (5 Points) / 941-1511/Rev. Donald McClellan, Pastor / 941-4167 / Enrichment Hour – 9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 a.m. / Sunday Evening Celebration – 6 p.m. / Family Night – Wednesday, 7 p.m.

SAINT ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH – 11280 Ozga Rd. / 941-5056/Daily Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday – 9 a.m. /Communion Service on Thursday at 9 a.m. / Weekend Masses: Saturday – 6 p.in., Sunday – 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. / Holy Day Masses: 9 a.m., 12 Noon, & 7 p.m. / Vigil Mass (evening prior to Holy Day). 7 p.m. / Confessions: Saturday – 4:30 to 5 p.m.

SAINT CITY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST - 7335 Washington / 595-0629 / Pastor: Elder James Lee Whitehead / Sunday School - 9:30 p.m. / Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m. /Sunday Evening Worship - 7 p.m. / Sunday Evening Radio Broadcast on WMUZ-FM 103.5 at 7:30 p.m. / Tuesday Evening Bible Study & Youth Night - 7 p.m. / Choir Rehearsal - Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. / Friday Evening Family Night - 7 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH – 19109 Craig (Post Office 274), New Boston / Robert Allmann, Pastor / Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, & Confirmation Class – 9:00 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship – 10 a.m. / Wednesday Worship – 7:30 p.m. / Organists: Mrs. Ruth Richert& Mr. Robert Walton / Attended Nursery

SALVATION ARMY - 33750 Goddard Rd. / 941-5100

SECOND MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 11242 Grover St. / 941-0330

STAR OF BETHLEHEM SPIRITUAL TEMPLE - 35143 Beverly Rd. / 326-4777

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH - 6312 Wayne Rd. / 721-5052

WAYNECOURSE CHURCH OF CHRIST – 7066 Waynecourse / 722-0454 / Earl Truss, Minister / 326-0918 / James Motley, Associate Minister: 561-3108 / Sunday Bible School – 10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship – 11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study – 7 p.m.

If you would like to have your church listed in the church directory (there is no charge), or, if you have changes or additions in church information, please send it to:

The Romulus News Church Directory

Post Office Box 74038 • Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (Note: For further information about events at the Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.)

Happy Birthday!

Best wishes for a wonderful birthday to those of my Tower neighbors born in the month of May: Noel Baker, Jodi Dickason, Lola Diebel, Arthur Fischer, Dorothy Icenogle, Mary Krieger, Rita McFalls, Verna Norris, Barbara Rhoades, Helen Rounke, and AnnMarie Silver (office staff).

Legal Aid

Legal Aid clinics offer free legal assistance in most civil matters to Wayne County residents age 60 and over. The next Legal Aid clinic is set for 9:30 a.m. on May 22 at the Romulus Senior Center. Seniors will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Senior "Yard Sale"

Romulus seniors can participate in the Citywide Yard Sale Weekend without the hassle of having strangers come to their home by taking part in the Center's "Senior Sale," set for May 30 through June 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. For more information, call the Center.

Exercise Classes

A new twice-weekly exercise program – to be held at the Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 10 a.m. beginning May 14 – will feature light routines designed to increase flexibility and improve strength and tone. The Senior Center suggests that all participants wear comfortable clothing, and urges anyone unused to physical exertion to consult a physician before joining the class.

"Mother's Day" Potluck

Meatballs and mashed potatoes will be the featured fare at the Senior Center's next potluck, set for May 17 from 2 to 5 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by students under the direction of Ms. Judy Thompson, dance/ choir instructor at Romulus High School. Bring a dish and bring a friend.

Brush with Art

Enjoy films, craft classes, tours, and more when the Senior Center visits the Detroit Institute of Art for its "Brush with Art" program on May 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$14. Sign up at the Center by Monday, May 20.

Breakfast with Pitoniak

State Representative Greg Pitoniak invites his senior-citizen constituents to join him for a "Breakfast Forum" at the Romulus Senior Center on Friday, June 7, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

"I strongly encourage seniors to attend this forum and bring their concerns and ideas," says Pitoniak, who plans to discuss the "House Democratic guarantee to seniors," welfare reform, and proposed tax cuts for the middle class, among other subjects. "I rely heavily on citizen input to be more effective and responsive. Past forums were very successful in terms of receiving valuable feedback."

For more information, please call the Romulus Senior Center or Pitoniak's Lansing office: 517-373-0852.

Senior Appreciation Day

Special Trips

Monday, May 20, has been designated as "Senior Appreciation Day" by the Romulus Senior Center – and, to celebrate, the Center has planned a special free picnic at Elmer Johnson Park (weather permitting; relocated to the Senior Center if necessary) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sign up by May 17.

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852.

- "Cumberland Princess" Cruise Summer's sizzle will be here sooner than you think, and the Senior Center is already making its plans for trips that will make the most of it like this three-day/two-night excursion combining the excitement of Greyhound racing with the relaxation of a cruise along the beautiful Ohio River. The \$289 cost of the trip (based on double-occupancy), which departs July 17, includes:transportation; two nights' lodging; dinner and an evening of racing at Tri-state Greyhound Park; and an all-day cruise.
- Laughlin, Nevada Billed as "the Vegas of 20 years ago," beautiful Laughlin, Nevada, on the Colorado River offers just as much fun as her gaudy big sister but in a more "laid-back" atmosphere. The \$293 cost (based on double-occupancy; seniors receive an additional discount) of the five-day/four-night trip set for mid September includes airfare, four nights' lodging, four meals, two "fun books," a cocktail party, admission to a lounge show, and "side trips." Cost must be paid by July 12. (This trip is open to all mature adults.)

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